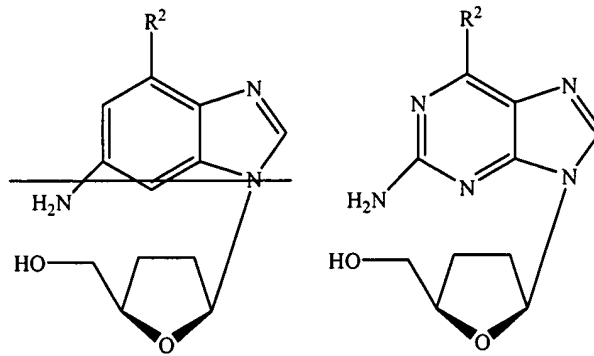


Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first formula on page 3, lines 23-30, with the following amended formula:



Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 8, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 1 is an illustration of the chemical structures of β -L-2',3'-dideoxycytidine (β -L-FddC) (β -L-ddC), β -D-2',3'-dideoxycytidine (β -D-ddC), β -L-2',3'-dideoxy-5-fluorocytidine (β -L-FddC) (β -L-FddC), (-)- β -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane ((-)- β -L-FTC), and (+)- β -D-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-dioxolane ((+)- β -D-FDOC), and β -L-2-amino-6-(R⁴)-9-[(4-hydroxymethyl)-tetrahydrofuran-1-yl]purine.

Please replace the paragraph the begins on page 35, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

The effect of selected β -L-derivatives against Hepatitis B replication in transfected Hep G-2 cells is described in Table 42.

Please replace the title of the table on page 36 with the following amended title:

Table ~~1~~2: Effect of L-derivatives against Hepatitis B virus ~~replication~~ replication
in transfected Hep G-2 (2.2.15) cells.

Please replace the paragraph the begins on page 37, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

The Comparative inhibitory effect of selected ~~triphosphates~~ triphosphates on woodchuck hepatitis virus DNA polymerase is set out in Table ~~5~~3.

Please replace the title of the table on page 36 with the following amended title:

Table ~~2~~3: Comparative inhibitory activities of L-nucleoside triphosphates on ~~woodchuck~~ woodchuck hepatitis virus DNA polymerase and human DNA polymerase α and β .